

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 111310Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1342

INFMRUFNPS/AMEMBASSY PARIS 2774

DEA HQS WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 2274

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:SNAR, DA

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE LEVEL VISITS

POST FOR DEA. DEA HQS WASHDC ATTN: EOIE/N ANTONELLI
(GF DENMARK)

REF: COPENHAGEN 2153, STATE 169824

SUMMARY:

AS INDICATED IN COPENHAGEN 2153, THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN ASKED BY VOLMER NISSEN, CHIEF COPENHAGEN PROSECUTOR FOR NARCOTICS CASES, FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO OBSERVE AT FIRST HAND US NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT AND JUDICIAL METHODS. NISSEN, WHO IS INFLUENTIAL NOT ONLY WITHIN THE COPEHAGEN POLICE BUT IN THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, TOLD THE EMBASSY THAT THE REQUEST WAS PROMPTED BY JUSTICE MINISTER ORLA MOLLER'S DESIRE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT US METHODS, BUT NOT TO BECOME INVOLVED HIMSELF FOR POLITICAL REASONS. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT SUCH A VISIT WOULD BE AN EXTREMELY USEFUL WAY TO INFLUENCE CONFIDENTIAL

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DENMARK'S POLICY, ESPECIALLY AT THIS TIME, BUT FEELS

THAT THE PROJECT SHOULD BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE, IF POSSIBLE, THE CHIEF OF THE COPENHAGEN POLICE AND AN OFFICIAL OF THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING A GENERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH COPENHAGEN NARCOTICS PROSECUTOR VOLMER NISSEN (REFERRED TO IN COPENHAGEN 2153), NISSEN ASKED THE NARCOTICS COORDINATOR WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE A VISIT FOR HIM TO THE US FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBSERVING AT FIRST HAND US NARCOTIC ENFORCEMENT AND JUDICIAL METHODS. NISSEN, A SOMEWHAT CONTROVERSIAL BUT INFLUENTIAL FIGURE IN THE COPENHAGEN POLICE AND JUDICIAL ESTABLISHMENT AND THE JUSTICE MINISTRY, HAS LONG FAVERED INTORDUCTION INTO DENMARK OF DEA METHODS SUCH AS THE USE OF FLASH ROLLS, INFORMERS, UNDERCOVER AGENTS, ENTICEMEMENT AND PLEA-BARGANING, AS A MEANS OF MEETING WHAT HE AND MANY OTHER DANISH ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS VIEW AS A GROWING DRUG PROBLEM IN DENMARK, AND A GROWING USE OF DENMARK AS A TRANSIT POINT FOR INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKERS.

2. A CONTROVERSY OVER THE INTRODUCTION INTO DENMARK OF "NEW METHODS" HAS EXISTED FOR SEVERAL MONTHS IN DANISH GOVERNMENT AND POLICE CIRCLES, AND HAS OCCASIONALLY SPILLED OVER INTO THE PRESS. IN FEBURARY THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY ORGAN ACTUEL REPORTED THAT JSTICE MINISTER ORLA MOLLER HAD TURNED DOWN A SUGGESTION BY NISSEN ("INSPIRED BY DEA") THAT FUNDS BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE NARCOTICS POLICE TO ENABLE THEM TO ACT AS BUYERS OF NARCOTICS. ACCORDING TO ACTUEL, MOLLER FEARED THE CONSEQUENNCS, WHICH MIGHT INCLUDE PROVOCATIONS AND DANGER TO THE POLICE. HE WOULD TAKE NO INTIATIVE INTHE MATTER, BUT WOULD ENTER INTO DISCUSSIONS WITH THE POLICE AT A LATER DATE. IN JUNE, ON THE OTHER HAND, THE PRESS REPORTED THAT THE ACTING JUSTICE MINISTER RESPONDED TO A PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION CONCERNING THE APPARENT ADVOCACY BY THEJUSTICE MINISTER OF NEW METHODS BY SAYING THAT IT WAS NECESSARYTO CONSIDER THEM WITH REGARD TO THE INTERNATIONALTRAFFIC. THE GENERAL FEELING HERE IS THAT THE CONTROVERSY HAS NOT BEEN SETTLED AND THAT THE MIND OF THE MINISTER REMAINS OPEN.

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3. IN MAKING HIS REQUEST, NISSEN STATED THAT IT WAS AT THE BEHEST OF MINISTER MOLLER, BUT ADDED THAT THIS INFORMATION SHOULD BE KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL BECAUSE THE MINISTER FOR POLITICAL REASONS DID NOT FEEL THAT HE SHOULD BECOME TOO CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE INVESTIGATION OF METHODS WHICH WERE BASICALLY FOREIGN TO DENMARK, AND WHICH MIGHT LEAVE HIM (AND HIS GOVERNMENT)

OPEN TO CRITICISM.

4. IN VIEW OF THE FORTHCOMING CREATION WITHIN THE COPENHAGEN POLICE OF AN INDEPENDENT NARCOTICS UNIT, AND THE DEA IN-COUNTRY SCHOOL TO BE HELD HERE IN DECEMBER, THE EMBASSY FEELS THAT NOW WULD BE A PARTICULARLY GOOD TIME TO EXPOSE INFLUENTIAL DANISH OFFICIALS TO DEA METHODS AND TOGENERAL US ENFORCEMENT AND JUDICIAL METHODS IN THE NARCOTICS FIELD. IN ADDITION, A CURRENT RUMOR IN POLICE CIRCLES HAS IT THAT A PLAN TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL NARCOTICS UNIT, CUTTING ACROSS DENMARK'S MANY POLICE JURISDICTIONS, WAS VETOED RECENTLY BY THE MINISTER. IF THERE IS ANY TRUTH TO THE RUMOR, IT IS AT LEAST ENCOURAGING THAT THE DANES ARE FINALLY MAKING SOME EFFORT IN THIS DIRECTION. FNALLY, THERE IS CONSIDER- ABLE POLICE RIVALRY IN THE NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT FIELD, NOT ONLY BETWEENORGANIZATIONS BUT BETWEEN THE OLDER, CONSERVATIVE POLICE OFFICIALS AND THE YOUNGER, MORE IMAGINATIVE OFFICERS WHO ARE OPEN TO NEW IDEAS. A WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE TOP WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL TO THOSE ELEMENTS PUSHING FOR NEW APPROACHES.

5. MR. NISSEN WOULD LIKE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PERSONNALLY OBSERVE POLICE METHODS AT THE MUNICIPAL LEVEL (HE MENTIONED LOS ANGELES AND NEW YORK), AND WOULD LIKE TO OBSERVE ALSO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ENFORCEMENT AND PROSECUTION. HE EXPRESSED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN US PLEA-BARGAINING TECHNIQUES.

6. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT IT WOULD BE IN THE US INTERESTS TO TAKE MR. NISSEN'S REQUEST AT FACE FALUE AND RESPOND POSITIVELY TO IT. AT THE SAME TIME, WE FEEL THAT MORE CAN BE MADE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY. NISSEN IS CONFIDENTIAL

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ALREADY CONVINCED OF THE VALUE OF DEA'S METHODS,(AND WORKS PRIMARILY WITH THE COPENHAGEN ESTABLISHMENT RATHER THAN NATIONALLY. EVEN THOUGH NISSEN STATES THAT HIS REQUEST WAS INSPIRED BY THE MINISTER, WE FEEL THAT INCLUSION OF AN INFLUENTIAL OFFICIAL FROM THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE IN ANY VISIT WOULD BE A GOOD WAY TO INSURE THAT THE MINISTRY IS FULLY EXPOSED TO OUR VIEWS. WE ALSO RECOMMEND INCLUSION OF THECHIEF OF THE COPENHAGEN POLICE AS A USEFUL PRELUDE TO THE OCTOBER ORGANIZATION OF THE INDEPENDENT NARCOTICS UNIT AND THE DECEMBER DEA COURSE.

7. THE EMBASSY HAS NOT RESPONDED TO NISSEN'S REQUEST, NOR HAVE WE DISCUSSED WITH ANY DANISH OFFICIALS THE POSSIBILITY OF EXPANDING THE VISIT TO INCLUDE OTHERS.

THE ISSUE OF SHARING THE EXPENSES OF ANY VISIT WAS
ALSO NOT TOUCHED ON DURING THE CONVERSATION. THE
EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS BEFORE
PROCEEDING FURTHER WITH THE PROJECT.
LUDENS

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